



CITY COUNCIL

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DJOU: LOFT INITIATIVE WILL HELP TO REVITALIZE CHINATOWN

The Honolulu City Council Zoning Committee today advanced Bill 43 (2004) which includes a “loft” measure that allows one-family and two-family dwellings within the Chinatown Special District. Councilmember Charles K. Djou (Waikiki, East Honolulu), Chair of the Zoning Committee, stated, “The loft concept will contribute to Chinatown’s social and economic vitality, while encouraging the retention of historic, cultural and architectural buildings.”

“This bill, which is supported by the Downtown Neighborhood Board, businesses and community organizations will contribute greatly to the continued revitalization of the Downtown/Chinatown area,” Councilmember Rod Tam (Downtown) commented.

“Long-established ethnic retail will remain on the ground floor, but the loft concept will provide living space on the upper floors, many of which have been empty for a while,” Djou added.

Bill 43 (2004), which encourages additional types of residential development in Chinatown, is scheduled for a public hearing on July 14. The bill will then return to Zoning Committee with final reading before the City Council tentatively scheduled for August 11.

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